



**Bahrain among 'happiest' Arab states during pandemic: report**

**Crisis-hit Lebanon is 'unhappiest'**

London

The UAE, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain were the happiest Arab countries from 2020 to 2022, according to the World Happiness Report, which was published yesterday.

The report, titled "World Happiness, Trust and Social Connections in Times of Crisis," surveyed respondents from around the world for the three years spanning the COVID-19 pandemic.

It measured well-being through three main indicators: life evaluations, positive emotions and negative emotions. Happiness rankings were based on a three-year average of life evaluations.

Out of the 137 countries measured, the top three Arab countries were the UAE at 26, Saudi Arabia at 30 and Bahrain at 42.

The three Gulf states were the only Arab countries out of the 13 listed that were in the top third of the global list.

Lebanon, suffering from economic malaise and a political crisis, was the unhappiest Arab state and second-last out of the 137 countries measured in the study.

**New US weapons boost for Ukraine**

The US announced a new arms package for Ukraine yesterday in the amount of \$350 million, according to Secretary of State Antony Blinken.

Yesterday's pledge will come from the Pentagon's stockpiles, making it the 34th such drawdown since Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022.

Washington will provide more ammo for HIMARS, howitzers, Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicles, High-speed Anti-radiation missiles (HARM missiles), anti-tank weapons and riverine patrol boats through the latest package.

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**Saudi calls on Muslims to look for Ramadan crescent**

**World prepares for blessed month**

Riyadh

Saudi Arabia has called on Muslims to sight the Ramadan crescent moon this evening, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported.

Tuesday corresponds to Shaban 29, 1444 and if the Ramadan crescent is spotted tonight, then Ramadan will begin tomorrow. If not, the holy month will



The crescent moon is seen behind a mosque

start on Thursday.

The crescent moon marks the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan when Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset.

The Supreme Court said anyone who sights the Ramadan crescent with their eyes or through binoculars should notify the nearest court to their location and record their testimony there, or contact the nearest center so that they can be directed to the nearest court.

Saudi Arabia's moon sighting committee usually observe the

moon in the days leading up to the expected start date of Ramadan, but they have encouraged other Muslims who wish to sight the moon to do so as well.

During Ramadan, Muslims refrain from eating and drinking from sunrise to sunset as part of the Islamic ritual that aims to encourage patience, charity, and community.

In Muslim countries, employees are allowed to work shorter days – either six hours per day or 36 hours a week. Students also have shorter school hours.

**'Loyalty to the nation' praised**

Cabinet highlights importance of strengthening Kingdom's sense of community partnership

**HM King Hamad and citizens are greeted on upcoming holy month of Ramadan**

TDT | Manama



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister chairs the weekly Cabinet meeting at Gudaibiya Palace

The Cabinet emphasised the importance of loyalty to the nation and commended the initiatives adopted by the Ministry of Interior to strengthen the Kingdom of Bahrain's sense of community.

This came as the country marked the Community Partnership and Belonging to the Nation Day, which is observed by the Kingdom on March 18.

The Cabinet, chaired yesterday by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, extended its

best wishes to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, to Bahraini citizens, and to the Arab and Islamic nations on the occasion of the upcoming holy month of Ramadan.

Marking Bahrain Youth Day, which falls annually on 25 March, the Cabinet commended the role played by Bahraini youth in furthering the Kingdom's comprehensive development, led by HM the King.

The Cabinet welcomed Bahrain International Airport be-



X-ray shows the coin battery in the patient's esophagus

ing named as the World's Best Airport for Baggage Delivery and the Best Airport Staff in the Middle East at the World Airport Awards, held at the 2023 Passenger Terminal EXPO in Amsterdam.

In this regard, the Cabinet noted the importance of developing airport services and competitiveness and commended the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications, and the Bahrain Airport Company for this achievement.

**KHAMH pediatric patient**

**Successful operation for boy who 'swallowed' coin battery**

TDT | Manama

A four-year-old boy who accidentally swallowed a coin battery was the first pediatric patient to visit the King Hamad American Mission Hospital (KHAMH) in A'Ali as it softly opened its doors to the public.

Dr. Souhail Shabib, Consultant Pediatric Gastroenterology, Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, said that the coin

battery was removed via endoscopy in AMH Manama two days earlier, and the child was seen at KHAMH for follow-up.

According to Dr. Shabib, Lithium coin batteries are extremely dangerous when swallowed.

They attach themselves to the gut wall, mainly in the esophagus, and download their electric charge burning the esophageal wall within two hours. This may be complicated with the perforation of the esophagus and may even cause death in some cases.



X-ray shows the coin battery in the patient's esophagus



Dr. Souhail Shabib with the four-year-old patient

In this patient's case, the battery was removed in less than two hours from the time of swallowing it revealing an already burned area under the site where the battery was found.

Dr. Shabib said Lithium coin batteries, magnets, small and loose plastic toys, and loose remote control must be kept out children's reach.